

City University of Hong Kong

Information on a Course
offered by the Department of Economics and Finance
with effect from Semester B in 2014 / 2015

Part I

Course Title: Seminar in Selected Topics in Economics/Finance

Course Code: EF5410

Course Duration: 1 semester (39 hours)

Credit Units: 3

Level: P5

Medium of Instruction: English

Prerequisites: Nil

Precursors: Nil

Equivalent Courses: Nil

Exclusive Courses: Nil

Part II

Course Aims

This course aims at providing students the theoretical foundations of a selected set of models in economics / finance, enabling them to learn and be aware of recent topics in the area and relevant empirical evidence.

Through seminars delivered by financial experts and business professionals on the latest developments in the financial markets, business and current issues, students get to develop their discovery skills for analysing the latest issues in the financial markets.

To evaluate students' accomplishments of discovery in putting forward their own analyses, and recommendations where applicable, students are required to write reports for the course. Students may expand on what the speakers lecture on for their reports.

The individual reports reflect students' own analyses of the issues that the speakers lecture on and provide evidence of their accomplishments of discovery. As some seminars are related to current issues with no definite resolutions of the problems, students may provide their own viewpoints in their reports that are opposite to what the speakers would present as long as they justify these views using their own analyses and recommendations. Some of these current issues may include predicting whether a particular central bank will loosen or tighten monetary policy, whether there should be higher capital adequacy requirements on banks, etc.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)
1.	Critically evaluate the latest developments in global economy, including in the fields of banking and finance. Students strengthen their creative abilities when they utilize a wider perspective on these latest developments.	60%
2.	Comprehend and analyze current practices in the financial markets. Students develop their creative abilities further when they critically evaluate these current practices from various perspectives.	40%

Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)

CILO No.	TLAs	Hours/week (if applicable)
CILO 1	Lectures Lectures are to provide the latest developments in the financial markets and current practices. Students develop further their critical thinking abilities during these lectures.	3 hours lecture per week
CILO 2	Reports Students are required to write reports and present their own critical analyses. Through report writing, students develop and display their creative and innovative abilities as they go about discovering the current practices and the latest developments in the financial markets.	

Assessment Tasks/Activities

(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)

CILO No.	Type of Assessment Tasks/Activities	Weighting (if applicable)	Remarks
CILO 1 & 2	Attendance, Reports	100%	

Grading of Student Achievement:

Letter Grade	Grade Point	Grade Definitions	
P		Pass	Students meet coursework requirements and are able to provide analyses of the issues presented in this seminar series.
F	0.0	Failure	Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited or irrelevant use of literature.

Summary of how DEC is incorporated in Assessment Tasks, and Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

DEC Elements	Assessment Tasks and TLAs
Develop students' attitude to discover and innovate	In-class discussions and Lectures
Develop students' ability to discover and innovate, accomplishments of Discovery and Innovation	Reports

Part III

Keyword Syllabus

Banking; International banking; Risk management; Trade and development; Asset pricing; Numerical methods in economics and finance.

Recommended Reading

Text(s)

To be provided by the instructor(s).

Online Resources

To be provided by the instructor(s).